

Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 CPR-01 AID-05 /054 W

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P O 182320Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 368

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 1368

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GT, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY)

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S VISIT: DRAFT ARRIVAL STATEMENT

1. EMBASSY PROPOSES SECRETARY MAKE FOL STATEMENT ON
ARRIVAL AT GUATEMALA CITY FEBRUARY 24. DEPARTURE STATEMENT
WILL NOT RPT NOT BE NECESSARY AS SECRETARY WILL HOLD
PRESS CONFERENCE IMMEDIATELY BEFORE DEPARTURE.

2. "MR. PRESIDENT, MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, DISTINGUISHED
OFFICIALS OF THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT, (MEMBERS OF THE
DIPLOMATIC CORPS,) LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: NATIONS, LIKE MEN,
ARE PUT TO THE TEST BY ADVERSITY. THEIR COURAGE IN THE
FACE OF DISASTER, THEIR SPIRIT IN THE FACE OF TRAGEDY ARE
A TRUER MEASURE OF THEIR WORTH THAN IS THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED
IN ORDINARY TIMES. WE KNOW, MR. PRESIDENT, HOW
MAGNIFICENTLY GUATEMALA HAS STOOD THE TEST. THE TIRELESS
ENERGY, THE UNWAVERING DETERMINATION TO RECOVER AND TO
REBUILD WHICH YOU AND THE GUATEMALAN PEOPLE HAVE DISPLAYED
HAVE WON THE ADMIRATION OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED
STATES AND OF THE ENTIRE WORLD. GUATEMALA IS TRULY
EN PIE.

3. "IN ONE SENSE, MR. PRESIDENT, I WISH THAT I COULD
HAVE COME TO GUATEMALA AT A HAPPIER TIME. THERE
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IS MUCH THAT WE COULD TALK ABOUT, BECAUSE OUR RELATIONS,

THE RELATIONS OF ALL OF US WHO SHARE OUR COMMON HEMISPHERE, HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT. THE PROBLEMS THAT CONFRONT GUATEMALA AND ALL OF CENTRAL AMERICA, THE PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT, OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE, AND OF REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND COOPERATION, ARE NOT SIMPLY YOUR PROBLEMS: THEY ARE THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS. THEY ARE THE AGENDA OF THE EFFORT TO BUILD NEW INSTITUTIONS AND NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. HOW SUCCESSFUL WE ARE IN LEARNING HOW WE CAN WORK TOGETHER RATHER THAN AGAINST EACH OTHER, IN COOPERATION RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION, DEPENDS MUCH ON THE COUNTRIES OF THIS HEMISPHERE. IF OUR COUNTRIES, LINKED FOR SO LONG BY COMMON INTERESTS AND COMMON CONCERNS, CANNOT FIND THE PATH TO ENDURING COOPERATION, WE WILL NOT FIND IT ELSEWHERE. THE EFFORTS OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES TO BUILD A CLOSER COMMUNITY, WHICH GUATEMALA HAS SO STRONGLY SUPPORTED, ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS WORLDWIDE SEARCH FOR COOPERATION AMONG NATIONS, AND THE UNITED STATES WISHES YOU SUCCESS.

4. "BUT IN ANOTHER SENSE, MR. PRESIDENT, I AM GLAD THAT I AM HERE NOW, IN THE AFTERMATH OF THIS TERRIBLE BLOW NATURE HAS DEALT. NOW IS THE TIME FOR FRIENDS TO COME TO GUATEMALA'S SIDE. I AM HERE TO SEE THE DAMAGE THE EARTHQUAKE HAS CAUSED, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, TO SEE AND TO HEAR FROM YOU AND YOUR MINISTERS HOW GUATEMALA IS REBUILDING AND REMAKING ITS FUTURE - AND HOW WE IN THE UNITED STATES MAY HELP. YOU HAVE HAD OUR PRAYERS; YOU HAVE OUR SUPPORT; YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE OUR FRIENDSHIP. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT."

5. SPANISH PHRASE USED PARA 2 ABOVE WAS USED BY PRESIDENT LAUGERUD IN NATIONWIDE TV ADDRESS FEBRUARY 11 ("GUATEMALA IS INJURED BUT IS STILL ON ITS FEET") AND HAS BECOME SLOGAN OF THE RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT.
MELOY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GUATEM01368
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760061-0314
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760240/aaaabizj.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <15 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S VISIT: DRAFT ARRIVAL STATEMENT
TAGS: OVIP, GT, (KISSINGER, HENRY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006